

NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SHADOW AUTHORITY

SHADOW OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

12th November 2020

Report Title	Programme Director's Update
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List of Appendices

Appendix A – Programme Director's Update Slides

Appendix B – Budget Monitoring Report

Appendix B1- Financial Overview

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to appraise the members of the progress being made to create North Northamptonshire Council.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The report outlines the progress made against the unitary 'critical path' timeline, service level readiness and provides a current financial overview. The report also provides an update on Change Management and Communications.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1. It is recommended that the Shadow Overview & Scrutiny Committee:

- a) Notes the high level programme delivery status
- b) Notes the update on change readiness and change champion recruitment.
- c) Notes the communication and engagement update
- d) Notes the finance monitoring report.

- 3.2 *Reasons for recommendations – To update members on programme and service delivery and the financial monitoring report.*

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1 The approach to setting up North Northamptonshire Council is at a point where the blueprint for the council has been adopted and the consultation phase is underway with staff and through the trade unions. A north Engine Room is being set up to support engagement and will be operational for the 1st November.
- 3.1.2 A reporting methodology has been established to track progress in more detail against the 'critical path' timeline at a unitary wide level and also at a service specific level in order to track service readiness and to be able to report at a North only level as well as a programme wide level where interdependencies and dependencies are paramount.
- 3.1.3 The finance monitoring report for October has been submitted for approval and the attached report sets out the details considered by the Executive.
- 3.1.4 There is also an update on communications and engagement and change management and the current position in relation to Change Champions recruitment and alignment to key service areas and the next steps as we move into the implementation phase of the programme.

3.2 Issues and Choices

- 3.2.1 The creation of a draft blueprint for North Northamptonshire Council will continue to be refined and improved over the coming months and will inform the post vesting day activities and priorities. Future changes to the Blueprint will now be covered by formal change control mechanisms and will be reported to the executive as appropriate.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Resources and Financial

- 4.1.1 The full extent of the impact of the pandemic is still emerging and we cannot be sure that a further outbreak is likely or not. The programme has been reorganised to mitigate this as much as possible but it will be necessary to monitor the situation carefully to ensure the resources needed from the sovereign councils are available for the implementation phase of the programme.
- 4.1.2 The delivery costs and benefits are set out in detail in the Finance Monitoring Report attached. There is no requirement to provide additional funds and this situation will be carefully monitored on a monthly basis.

4.3 Legal

4.3.1 No implications in this report

4.4 Risk

4.4.2 Of the RAG ratings reported within the Programme Status Summary, as at the end of September 2020, five are rated green and three are rated amber. There are currently no programmes displaying a red rated status. Commentary on these ratings can be found in Appendix A to this report.

4.4.3 In terms of unitary level critical products, there is one product which is of concern and three products which are under increased watch. Again, commentary on these products can be found in Appendix A.

4.5 Consultation

4.5.1 There is no formal public consultation required as part of the recommendations within this report.

4.6 Consideration by Overview and Scrutiny

4.6.1 The Overview and Scrutiny regularly review the Programme Director's Update and will do so again at its next meeting scheduled to take place on 12 November 2020.

4.7 Climate Impact

4.7.1 There are no direct climate or environmental impacts as a result of the contents of this report.

4.8 Community Impact

4.8.1 There are no direct community impacts as a result of the contents of this report.

5 Background Papers

5.1 None.